

Message Text

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UNCLAS MONTREAL 302

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TAGS: PFOR, CA OVIP (TRUDEAU, PIERRE)
SUBJ: MORE MONTREAL MEDIA COVERAGE TRUDEAU SPEECH TO CONGRESS

1. MONTREAL PRESS CONTINUES PRAISE TRUDEAU'S SPEECH TO
CONGRESS FOR IMPROVING U.S. RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH NOT MEETING
QUEBEC PROBLEM.

2. FOR CLAUDE RYAN OF LE DEVOIR, WHAT TRUDEAU HAD TO SAY
ON THE QUEBEC QUESTION CERTAINLY WAS THE MAJOR ASPECT OF HIS
SPEECH FOR THOSE PREOCCUPIED BY THE SUBJECT. BUT THIS WAS
NOT TRUDEAU'S ONLY THEME. THERE WERE BILATERAL ISSUES
(GARRISON DIVERSION, ALASKA PIPELINE, FISHING RIGHTS), AND
INTERNATIONAL POLITICS WHEREIN TRUDEAU ACCEPTED THE ROLE OF
THE U.S. AS THE "IRREPLACEABLE LEADER" IN THE "PURSUIT OF A
MOST VIABLE POLITICAL ORDER" IN THE WORLD. FINALLY, ACCORDING
TO RYAN, THE "THIRD OPTION" IS GIVING WAY AND THE OLD FRIENDSHIP
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES--"AND EVEN THE SPECIAL TIES WHICH ARE
THE NORMAL COROLLARY"--WILL BE RESUMED. "FOR THOSE CANADIANS
WHOSE DAILY OUTLOOK IS FILLED WITH ALL SORTS OF EXCHANGES WITH THE
AMERICANS, THIS CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE WILL BE PERCEIVED NOT AS A
SETBACK BUT AS A RECTIFICATION EMANATING FROM LIFE ITSELF."

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3. MARCEL ADAM, IN LA PRESSE, WRITES THAT TRUDEAU'S VISIT WAS A
"BRILLIANT SUCCESS." ADAM SEES TRUDEAU AND CARTER ESTABLISHING
NOT ONLY A CORDIALITY "NOT SEEN FOR A LONG TIME BETWEEN THE LEADERS
OF THE TWO COUNTRIES", BUT ALSO A RELATIONSHIP OF "CONFIDENCE,
SIMPLICITY AND CANDOR." ADAM QUOTES JOSEPH KRAFT, AMERICAN
COLUMNIST WHO APPEARED ON RADIO-CANADA TELECAST AFTER THE
TRUDEAU SPEECH: "AMERICANS TODAY DO NOT TAKE CANADA FOR GRANTED;

THEY ARE ABSORBED BY ITS POLITICAL FUTURE, BY ITS FUTURE STABILITY, AND THEY WILL BE MORE CLOSELY INTERESTED (IN CANADA)." BUT ADAM WONDERS HOW THIS "GREAT POLITICAL MANEUVER" (THE SPEECH) WILL INFLUENCE THE QUEBEC-OTTAWA DISPUTE.

4. MONTREAL'S STAR EDITORIAL COMPARES TRUDEAU'S NATIONALLY TELEVIS-ED SPEECH AFTER P.Q. NOVEMBER ELECTION WHEN OPPOSITION LEADERS DEMANDED AND GOT EQUAL AIR TIME. ACCORDING TO STAR, JOE CLARK AND ED BROADBENT RAISED THEIR OWN POLITICAL STATURE BY RECOGNIZING THAT TRUDEAU IN WASHINGTON WAS SPEAKING NOT FOR THE PARTY OR GOVERNMENT BUT "FOR THE COUNTRY." STAR ALSO PRINTS SERIES OF COMMENTS FROM QUEBECOIS. THOSE APPARENTLY FROM CONSERVATIVE, COMMERCIAL FIELDS GENERALLY REPORTED APPROVING SPEECH, WHILE YOUNGER STUDENTS AND P.Q. MEMBERS QUITE CRITICAL.

5. THE GAZETTE, CONSISTENTLY LESS ENTHUSED THAN STAR WITH TRUDEAU, EDITORIALIZED THAT NOW PRIME MINISTER MAY BE FORCED "INTO A POSITION OF LEADERSHIP." TRUDEAU "MUST MOVE FORWARD FROM HIS SET-PIECE SPEECHES TO RESPOND TO THE COUNTRY'S NEED FOR A SENSE OF DIRECTION."
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